

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 EB-11 INR-11 RSC-01 DRC-01

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R 110846Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8211

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 4646

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, SA, US

SUBJ: SAUDI-US WORKING GROUPS: RIYADH-WASHINGTON TELEX

REF : STATE 174850

1. IN REFTEL DEPARTMENT CALLED TO EMBASSY'S ATTENTION THREE CABLES WHICH HAD INADVERTENTLY BEEN SENT TO THE EMBASSY THROUGH TREASURY CHANNEL. THE EMBASSY HAS PREVIOUSLY BROUGHT TO THE DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION INSTANCES IN WHICH TELEGRAMS WERE INADVERTENTLY SENT FROM TREASURY DIRECTLY TO SAUDI OFFICIALS BY COMMERCIAL CHANNELS AND WHICH BY CHANCE CAME TO THE EMBASSY'S ATTENTION.

2. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY DR. SULAYMAN SOLAIM, SAUDI COORDINATOR OF THE JOINT WORKING GROUPS, THAT THE OFFICE OF THE JOINT COMMISSION IN RIYADH HAS NOW BEEN EQUIPPED WITH TELEX CAPABILITY DIRECT TO WASHINGTON. SOLAIM HAS ASKED US FOR THE TELEX ADDRESS OF THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT. WE TOLD SOLAIM THAT WE WOULD GIVE HIM AN APPROPRIATE WASHINGTON TELEX ADDRESS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. DUE TO THE LACK OF COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN JIDDA AND RIYADH--A TELEPHONE CALL FREQUENTLY TAKES FOUR OR MORE HOURS--WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO OFFER RAPID EMBASSY COMMUNICATION FACILITIES TO WASHINGTON AS AN ALTERNATIVE
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TO USE OF THE TELEX FROM RIYADH. WE ARE CONCERNED HOW-

EVER, THAT USE OF THE TELEX COULD RESULT IN COMMUNICATION PROBLEMS MORE SERIOUS THAN THOSE WHICH HAVE ARISEN IN THE PAST, PARTICULARLY BEFORE WE HAVE AN EMBASSY OFFICER PERMANENTLY STATIONED IN RIYADH WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR OVERSEEING ACTIVITIES OF THE JOINT COMMISSION. WE THEREFORE WOULD LIKE TO GIVE DR. SOLAIM A TELEX ADDRESS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE INCLUDING SUFFICIENT ADDITIONAL ADDRESS INFORMATION (E.G. NEA FOR DRAPER) WHICH WILL INSURE THAT COMMUNICATIONS ARE SEEN IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AS WELL AS BY THE PROPER PERSONS IN THE TREASURY.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE DEPARTMENT PROVIDE A TELEX ADDRESS WHICH WE MAY GIVE TO DR. SOLIAM THAT WILL GIVE THE DEPARTMENT ADEQUATE CONTROL OVER COMMUNICATIONS.
HORAN

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